GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:735
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2001
BIO-FERTILIZERS AS A SUBSTITUTE TO CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that according to the Experts from IndianSociety of Soil Science and Indian Agricultural Research Institute, there are gravemisconception about the potential of bio-fertilizers to substitute the use of chemical fertilizers as organic fertilizers alone are not sufficient to fulfil the nutrition need of the crop to sustain the productivity and when used in conjunction with chemical fertilizers they can enhance agriculture yield;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the steps taken for the use of organic fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizer?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) to (c): Biofertilizers are considered as a supplement to chemical fertilizers and not as a substitute. Biofertilizers are cheaper source of plant nutrients which are also environmentally friendly.

Government propagates the integrated use of plant nutrient through chemical fertilizers, organic manures and biofertilizers. Such a combination of nutrients ensures a greater sustainability to the soil and crop productivity.